

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2299,  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 30, 2001*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House passed the conference report on H.R. 2299, Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations for FY 2002. I was pleased to support this legislation and would like to thank the committee for including language which benefits my constituents in the 8th Congressional District of Texas.

First, the committee was kind enough to include report language that encourages the Federal Highway Administration to collaborate with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University on their Work Zone Safety proposal. TTI is dedicated to a program of research intended to enhance the overall safety associated with roadways and, at the same time, finding approaches for more efficiently handling the traffic demands.

One important example of TTI's efforts to improve the safety of our roadways is through the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse. The only one of its kind in the United States, the Clearinghouse provides information and referrals to government agencies, public and private organizations, and the general public concerning the safe and effective operation of traffic work zones.

Work zones have always been dangerous places for construction workers and travelers. With more and more highway construction and maintenance under way, most of the time traffic cannot be shut down while work is being done. Highway workers must often perform their jobs with traffic just a few feet away. Unfortunately, this has resulted in more than 20,000 accidents in highway work zones, injuring some 5,000 people and killing 700 more. In my home state of Texas alone, 125 people were killed in a construction or maintenance work zone in 1998.

The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse housed at TTI is a part of the solution. With a toll-free call, a fax or visit to the Clearinghouse's website, contractors, workers and safety officials now have access to a wide array of information and materials. The Clearinghouse collects, maintains and makes available information on work zone safety, crash statistics, construction standards, worker safety training, safety products and public awareness and law enforcement campaigns. Through these efforts we are seeing progress, but more work needs to be done to help make work zones safer and save more lives.

The continued efforts of TTI and the Clearinghouse are critical to furthering work zone safety. It is my goal to see that important transportation research such as the work zone safety clearinghouse continues to receive the support it deserves.

I would also like to speak today about a provision that represents a good example of community and university partnership in my district. The Conference Report provides funding to Brazos Transit to purchase new buses and

then lease them on a multi-year agreement to Texas A&M University at a nominal yearly fee.

These new buses will help meet the transportation needs of the community by providing students living in the community with safe, efficient and economical transportation to and from campus. This new partnership will benefit Brazos Transit, Texas A&M University and most importantly the students.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SGT. BRIAN  
CODY PROSSER

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2001*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Special Forces Staff Sgt. Brian Cody Prosser, a young man who grew up in my Congressional District and who died Monday in Afghanistan fighting terrorism on behalf of all Americans.

Sgt. Prosser hails from Frazier Park, California, a small, tight-knit community in the Los Padres National Forest's high country. He was captain of his high school football team and enlisted in the Army after graduation in 1991. Friends and family have described him as "dedicated," "brave," "tough," and "down-to-earth."

His father, Brian D. Prosser, who is also an Army veteran, called his son a "warrior" and said Sgt. Prosser died doing what he wanted to do.

Sgt. Prosser was proud to be an American, trained hard to become one of America's elite soldiers, and died a hero at age 28 doing his job to rid the world of terrorists and those who harbor them. Our country is saddened by his death and those of his comrades who died with him, Master Sgt. Jefferson Donald Davis, 39, of Watauga, Tennessee, and Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Henry Petithory, 32, of Cheshire, Massachusetts. At the same time we are honored and thankful for their commitment to America and the sacrifice they were willing to risk on our behalf.

Sgt. Prosser is survived by his wife, Shawna; his parents, Brian and Ingrid Prosser; and three brothers, Jarudd, Michael, and Reed.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in honoring Sgt. Prosser's sacrifice on behalf of his country and in offering our heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends, as well as to the family and friends of Sgt. Davis and Sgt. Petithory.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE JAMES  
WORTH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a dynamic community leader, a good friend, and a committed protector of his neighborhood, the late James Worth. He will be sorely missed by all of those who knew him.

Over forty years ago, James Worth left his native North Carolina and arrived in Brooklyn. Since that time, he built a fine family with his

wife, Ruth and a legacy of hard work and dedication to his community. Among his many achievements, he started a community garden where people would gather and discuss the issues of the day. That garden remains an oasis in a community that faces its share of difficulties. In addition, he was the long time leader of the Georgia Ave. Block Association. James' commitment to his community extended beyond his civic concerns, as he was involved in the political arena as well. If someone was going to represent James' community, James wanted to be sure to check them out first.

Mr. Speaker, the late James Worth was a hard working community leader, a dedicated political leader and a true friend to all those who knew him. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly admirable man who will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL A. POLLACK

**HON. J.D. HAYWORTH**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2001*

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a valued constituent, Michael A. Pollack, president and founder of Michael A. Pollack Real Estate Investments in Mesa, Arizona and a man who is devoted to improving the lives of those living in the communities surrounding his housing developments.

Michael Pollack's involvement with the community is well known and the list of causes to which he contributes is lengthy. Operating on the philosophy that corporate philanthropy begins at home, Michael has contributed generously to numerous local causes, including the Chandler Service Club, the YMCA, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Chandler Regional Hospital, several local high schools, various churches, synagogues and rescue missions, as well as the D.A.R.E. program. He also supports national charities, including Special Olympics, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the American Cancer Society, to name just a few.

Earlier this year, Michael arranged for famed Notre Dame football player Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, the subject of the 1993 movie Rudy, to deliver an inspirational pep talk to the Dobson High School football team, which hadn't posted a winning season since 1994. Following Rudy's message and a private viewing of the Rudy film at Michael's Tempe movie theatre, the team went on to win the first four games of the season.

Michael is a business person who leads by example and his personal contributions to the community are many. The end result is that Michael epitomizes the principles that make America great: hard work, integrity and giving back to the community.

I join others, such as former Congressman and current Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta; former State Senator John Huppenthal; Arizona Governor Jane D. Hull; Glendale, Arizona Mayor Elaine Scruggs; Mesa, Arizona Mayor Keno Hawker; Chandler, Arizona Mayor Jay Tibshraeny; Tempe, Arizona Mayor Neil Giuliano; Tucson, Arizona Mayor Robert Walkup and many other city,